

OVERVIEW

It is the adoption worker's responsibility to prepare both the child and the prospective adoptive family for adoption - regardless of whether the placement is with foster parents, relatives or a recruited family. In every type of placement, the child should have an age appropriate understanding of the adoption process. "Lifebooks" are a valuable aid in helping children explore the key issues related to adoption.

In transitioning the child to a new family, the adoption worker should allow appropriate time for the adjustment of both the child and the adoptive family. In recruited adoptive family situations, the child should have as much information as possible regarding the prospective adoptive family, including their motivation for adopting the child. The family must have documentation regarding the child's history, including the DHS-1927, Child Adoption Assessment. This information must be thoroughly reviewed with the prospective adoptive family (see ADM 0670).